

FLORIDA

SPRING 2005

# History & the Arts

A MAGAZINE OF FLORIDA'S HERITAGE

# MISSION SAN LUIS

THE PATEL  
CONSERVATORY

ARTS RECOGNITION  
SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM

SMALL TOWN  
TREASURES IN  
CENTRAL FLORIDA

## FOCUS ON

THE CELEBRATION OF  
FLORIDA'S SPIRIT CONTINUES

**I**t has been an honor for the Department of State to partner again this year with Governor Bush's office and Florida's many cultural and historical organizations, to celebrate the second annual Florida Heritage Month. As a fourth generation Floridian, I am especially proud to be part of this effort as I value our state's rich and diverse history and culture. On April 6 at the Florida Heritage Month Gala in Tallahassee, it will be my great pleasure to announce the 2005 Florida Folk Heritage award winners, and induct writer, folklorist, and civil rights activist, Stetson Kennedy into the Florida Artists Hall of Fame. That evening, we will also recognize the designated 2005 Great Floridians, and the recipients of the 2005 Historic Preservation awards.

For the second year in a row, members of the Florida Historical Commission, the Florida Arts Council, and the Florida Folklife Council will hold a joint meeting in Tallahassee in conjunction with Florida Heritage Month festivities. Florida Heritage Month continues through April 15. It is truly a celebration of Florida's spirit. For a schedule of statewide events, please visit [www.floridaheritagemonth.com](http://www.floridaheritagemonth.com).

In this issue we highlight the importance of arts education for Florida students. Thanks to the commitment of our many outstanding civic and business leaders, and the thousands of dedicated and talented teachers and volunteers throughout our state, Florida's arts education programs stimulate, inspire, and motivate students to excel in their studies and in life.

In partnership with the Governor and First Lady, and teachers and programs throughout the state, the Department of State is dedicated to ensuring that students in Florida receive an education enriched by these extraordinary and inspirational programs. The Arts in Education program works to cultivate the learning and artistic development of students and teachers in pre-kindergarten through grade 12 schools, and to support activities that promote the arts as an integral part of education and lifelong learning. In addition, the program supports initiatives and proposals that help artists, educators, institutions of learning, and community, social, and cultural organizations carry out individual or cooperative programs, and work as partners in comprehensive community programs. In 2003-2004, the Division of Cultural Affairs awarded over 84 grants in more than 23 counties, including 9 critically underserved counties, benefiting over 680,000 individuals, and directly reaching over 393,000 youth.

We all share the responsibility for assuring that Florida's children receive an excellent education. Please join me in working with our government and community leaders, educators, and citizens throughout our great state, to support and encourage the power of the arts that enliven and transform the education of Florida's students.



*Glenda E. Hood*

Glenda E. Hood  
Secretary of State

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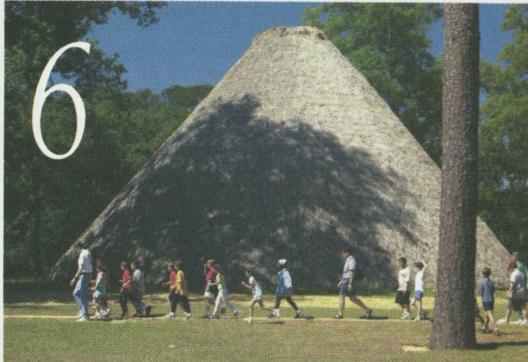
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ON THE COVER: Mission San Luis, Apalachee council house. Photo by Ray Stanyard.

# FLORIDA IN MY VIEW



## FLORIDA History & the Arts

*Florida History & the Arts* is published quarterly by the Florida Division of Historical Resources and the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, Florida Department of State.



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## ■ AL WEISS ■

We all know that arts education enriches our lives and teaches us how to express our emotions, thoughts, and aspirations in a variety of creative ways. Supporting arts education also makes good business sense.

Each and every day Walt Disney World Resort offers guests more than 100 stage shows, parades, street performances and spectaculars in over 50 performance venues. Making this all possible are the more than 4,500 cast members in our entertainment division, many of whom were inspired by arts programs offered right here in Florida.

Arts education has a proven track record of strengthening critical thinking skills, developing a positive work ethic and broadening appreciation of our diverse world – all coveted traits among employers of choice. An appreciation for the arts also contributes to efforts

to further diversify our state's economy, nurturing a spirit of innovation and enhancing the quality of life that is so important to growing high-value industries.

First Lady Columba Bush and Secretary of State Glenda Hood have shown tremendous leadership in elevating our state's appreciation of the arts. It is important that Florida's private-sector leaders follow their lead and support the arts in their own communities.

At Walt Disney World Resort, we demonstrate our commitment in a variety of ways, such as sponsorship of United Arts of Central Florida and A Gift for Music, a non-profit organization that pro-

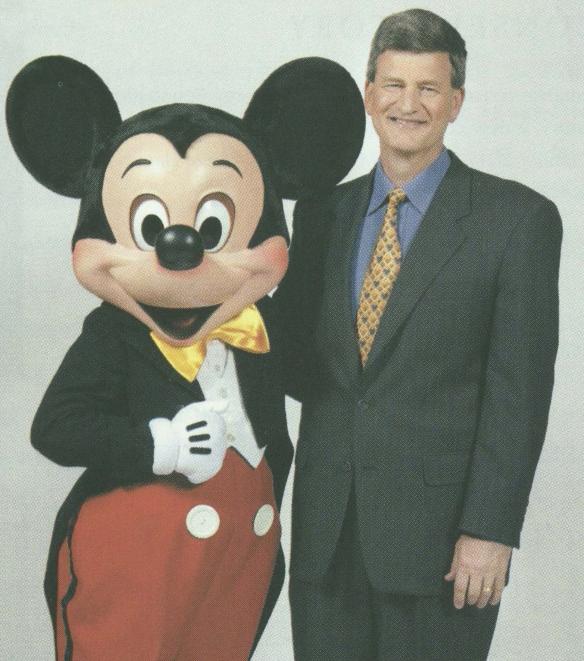
vides musical instruments and instruction to local schoolchildren. We also offer many opportunities for our guests to experience the arts, such as our new "Echoes of Africa" art exhibit at EPCOT and our Disney Magic Music Days program, which each year enables over 1,000 bands, orchestras, choirs and dance troupes to become part of our show for a day.

I applaud my colleagues throughout the state who are involved in similar initiatives and encourage us all to look for new and innovative ways to build upon the strong arts and cultural foundation that already exists here.

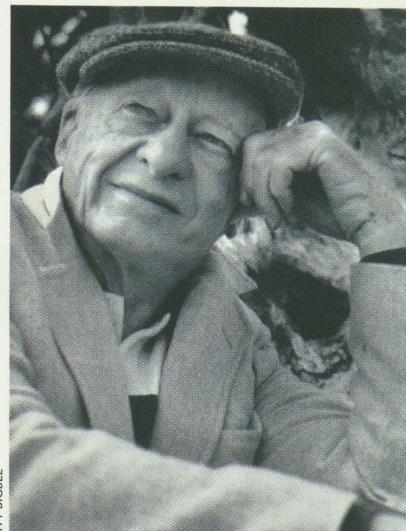
As the Florida Chamber of Commerce's New Cornerstone report points out, the future of Florida's economy relies on creative communities. Together, we can ensure our state realizes its full potential.

AL WEISS is president of Walt Disney World Resort.

COURTESY WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT



## NEWS &amp; NOTES



IVY BIGBEE

## STETSON KENNEDY

**H**uman rights activist, folklorist, and investigative historian, Stetson Kennedy will be inducted into the 2005 Florida Artists Hall of Fame on Wednesday, April 6, when Secretary of State Glenda E. Hood presents the commemorative award during the Florida Heritage Month Gala in Tallahassee.

Kennedy's career represents an extraordinary contribution to the heritage and the future of Florida. He is being recognized for a life of work that includes the infiltration of the Ku Klux Klan, and the fight against Jim Crow laws and discrimination in the South. Kennedy's first book, *Palmetto Country*, a volume in the American Folkways Series edited by Erskine Caldwell, was published in 1942 when he was 25. Later titles include *The Klan Unmasked*, *Southern Exposure*, and *Jim Crow Guide*. Kennedy's most recent book, *After Appomattox: How the South Won the War*, was completed in 1998.

Kennedy's likeness and legacy will join those of Zora Neale Hurston, Tennessee Williams and many others, in the Florida Artists Hall of Fame in the Capitol Gallery on the 22nd floor of the state Capitol building.

## Coral Gables Hosts Florida Trust Conference

**M**ore than 350 historic preservationists will gather at the Biltmore Hotel, a National Historic Landmark in Coral Gables, for the annual conference of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, May 19 through 21. The Trust conference will include professional workshops reflecting current preservation issues and challenges found in South Florida, as well as general workshops about preservation grants, guides to preservation organizations and other "how to" topics.

Conference tours will showcase local historic districts and museums, offering a visit to many of south Florida's historic properties, such as Vizcaya, Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Venetian Pool and historic theatres throughout Miami. An awards ceremony will recognize individuals and organizations throughout the state for outstanding preservation, restoration or rehabilitation projects, historic landscapes and archaeology projects, educational and media programs and achievements.



FLORIDA STATE ARCHIVES



FLORIDA STATE ARCHIVES

**Founded in 1978, the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation is a non-profit organization with more than 2,000 members statewide. Dedicated to preserving and promoting Florida's**

**historical resources through property stewardship, education and advocacy, the Florida Trust is the statewide partner to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. For information on the conference or the Florida Trust, call 850.224.8128 or visit [www.floridatrust.org](http://www.floridatrust.org).**

## NEWS &amp; NOTES

## Preserving Florida's Heritage Through Art

**T**he artist, Wallen, and Clermont gallery owner, Kathy Sutton established the Florida Heritage-Art Foundation (FAHF) to support the preservation of Florida's natural, cultural and historical heritage through the creation and sale of art. In 2004 the Florida Heritage-Art Foundation contributed funding support to the Florida Trust for

Historic Preservation, the South Lake Historical Society, and the Friends of Florida State Parks. FAHF generates its funds for donation through the sale of Florida Heritage-Art series limited edition prints.

In the Florida Heritage-Art series, Wallen is committed to paint-



COURTESY WALLEN

ing and promoting the often-overlooked beauty of Florida's "back yard", the landscapes that may be taken for granted, but nonetheless are places of natural beauty. The Florida Heritage-Art series is scheduled for exhibition in the state capitol in August 2007. Sutton and Wallen have also established the Association of Florida Heritage Artists for galleries and artists interested in participating.

For more information on the Florida Heritage Art Fund, visit the Sutton Gallery at 789 W. Montrose Street in Clermont, call 1.800.987.9333, or visit [www.floridaheritage-art.org](http://www.floridaheritage-art.org). For the Association of Florida Heritage Artists write P.O. Box 761, Lake Panasoffkee, FL 33538-0761 or e-mail [AFHA@heritage-art.org](mailto:AFHA@heritage-art.org).

## TALLAHASSEE STUDENT ART COMPLEMENTS FSU MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS EXHIBITS

**E**ach year, the Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts showcases the work of Tallahassee area students in conjunction with its spring exhibition. In 2005, an exuberant and color-filled, salon-style display of several hundred pieces provided a preview to *Coming Home: Self-Taught Artists, the Bible, and the American South* (organized by the Art Museum of the University of Memphis with support from Humanities Tennessee, National Endowment for the Arts, and the Rockefeller Foundation). The students' work

examined life in or near Tallahassee or elsewhere in the American South. Working with 16 teachers from ten area schools, students were encouraged to use the bold techniques and mixed media materials sometimes adopted by self-taught artists.

The theme of next year's exhibit, "Song of the Open Road," will challenge students to express the meaning of roads in America. The FSU Museum of Fine Arts Education Program is made possible through the support of the City of Tallahassee Cultural Services, Communiiversity Partnership of the Cultural Resources Commission; FSU University and Humanities Enhancement; Florida Arts Council; Leon County Cultural Development and G.F.W.C Woman's Club of Tallahassee. The Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and weekends 1 to 4 p.m., except holidays. Call 850.644.6836 or visit [www.mofa.fsu.edu](http://www.mofa.fsu.edu).



# Hoffman Institute Makes Summer A Breeze

**G**eneral public enrollment for summer classes begins April 10 at the Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute in Clearwater. Opportunities range from multi-week performance classes to one-week classes for little artists, young artists, growing artists and pre-teen/early teen artists. The summer class offerings are but one of many arts education programs offered at the Hoffman Institute.

Opened in December 2002, the Hoffman Institute provides classrooms and rehearsal studios adjacent to Ruth



COURTESY HOFFMAN INSTITUTE

Eckerd Hall at the Richard B. Baumgardner Center for the Performing Arts. The Institute serves over 200,000 students and adults annually, while the education program at Ruth Eckerd Hall/The Hoffman Institute has impacted more than one million children since its inception. Community programs are provided throughout the Tampa Bay area to meet the needs of underserved communities and to build stronger neighborhoods. To register for summer classes, or for more information about the programs and opportunities offered by the Hoffman Institute, visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com) or call 727.712.2706.

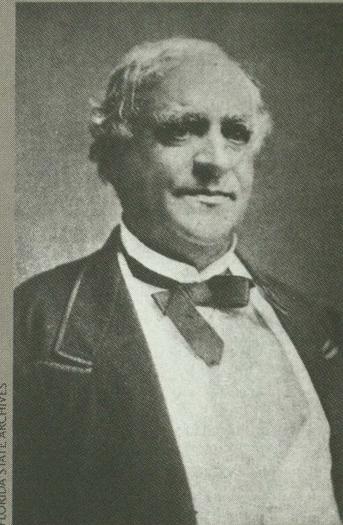


## Get On Board Yulee Railroad Days 2005

**F**lorida communities coast-to-coast will celebrate Yulee Railroad Days 2005 on June 3, 4 and 5 along the route of the historic cross-state Florida Railroad. Yulee Day has been celebrated in the City of Archer since 1995. In 2004 the festival expanded into a three-day annual celebration, spreading across North Florida to become Florida's first "linear festival." The sweep of the event from Fernandina to Cedar Key echoes the track of David Levy Yulee's Florida Railroad and includes many of the towns that came to life because of it, or other, rail lines.

Communities from Fernandina, Starke, Lawtey, Waldo, Gainesville, Archer, Cedar Key and others will host all-day Saturday events, showcasing the rich historical, cultural, and natural attractions of the heart of North Florida. A bicycle ride and relay will trace the Florida Railroad's original route, stretching 155 miles from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico, and a run will take place on the Hawthorne-Gainesville rail to trail.

For more information and a schedule of events and participating communities, write Yulee Railroad Days, P.O. Box 5143, Gainesville, FL 32627 or visit [www.yuleerailroaddays.org](http://www.yuleerailroaddays.org).



DAVID LEVY YULEE

MISSION SAN LUIS

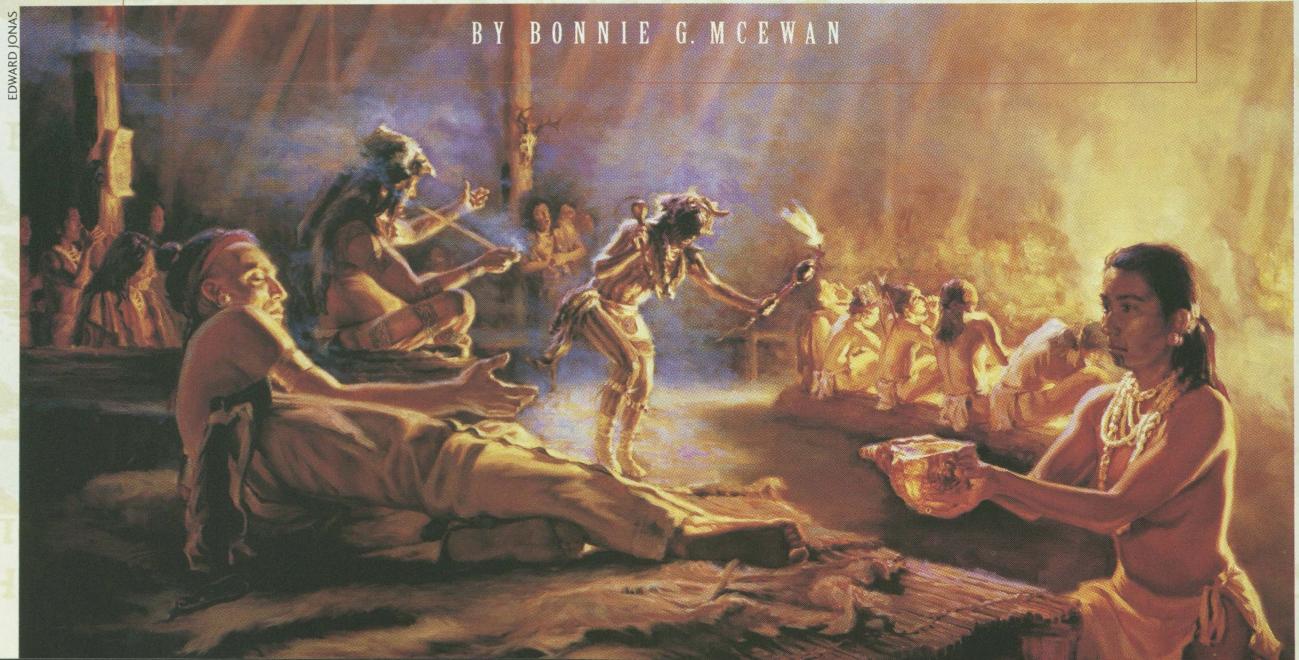
# The Jewel of Florida's Colonial Mission Chain



Last year in Southern California, nearly 600,000 people visited the Spanish mission of San Juan Capistrano. Yet few Americans are aware of the more than one hundred Spanish missions that existed in Florida 150 years *before* their better-known California counterparts. Mission San Luis, in present day Tallahassee, was the western capital of the Florida missions in the 17th century, and home to more than 1,500 Apalachee Indians and Spanish colonists. These Spaniards were the first European immigrants to settle in the Tallahassee area.

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY MISSION SAN LUIS

BY BONNIE G. MCEWAN



EDWARD JONES



## MISSION SAN LUIS

**A**lthough the story of Mission San Luis and the Florida missions is not found in most American texts, its significance to the nation's multicultural history is becoming increasingly relevant. And, as the only reconstructed mission in our state, San Luis provides visitors of all ages with a powerful learning experience about Florida's rich colonial past and an appreciation of the contributions of Spaniards and Native Americans in the formation of our diverse national character.

Mission San Luis was designated a National Historical Landmark in 1960, and was acquired by the State of Florida through the Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL) Trust Fund in 1983 because of its historical and archaeological significance. Today the site is managed by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources.

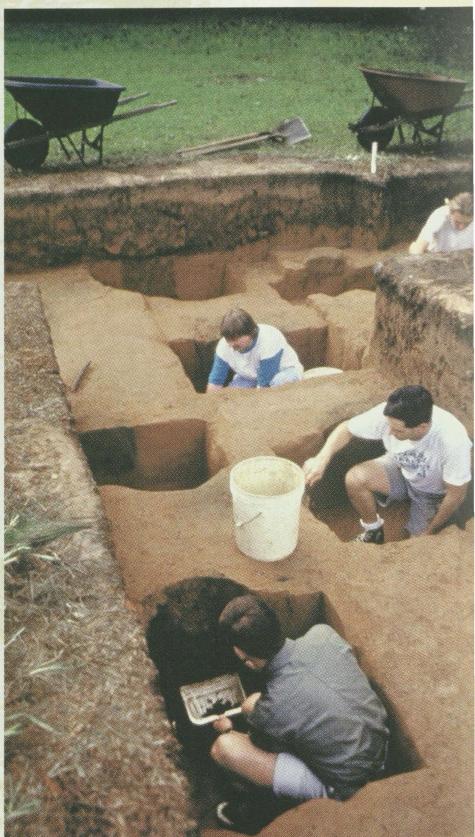
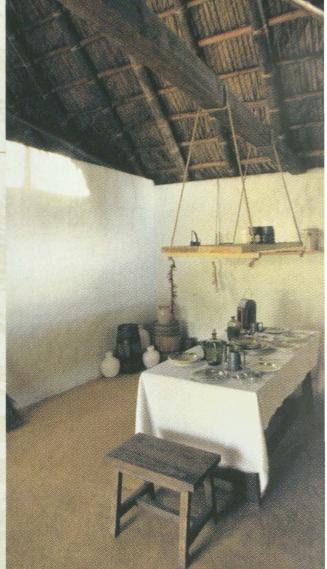
Award-winning archaeological and historical research conducted by Division staff at Mission San Luis has provided unprecedented detail about social and institutional life at the missions. These studies have also provided remarkable insights into the physical appearance of the Mission San Luis community, including its most dominant building, the Apalachee council house. At over 140 feet in diameter, with the capacity to hold between 2,000 and 3,000 people, this structure is the largest known historic-era Indian building in the Southeast United States. As a symbol of the chief's authority, it speaks to the importance of San Luis as a village, and of the power of its chief. Its location on the central plaza of the Spaniards' western capital, directly across from the Franciscan church, reveals an unusual level of accommodation at this town site.

■ As the only reconstructed mission in our state, San Luis provides visitors of all ages with an appreciation of the contributions of Spaniards and Native Americans in the formation of our diverse national character.



The extensive research at Mission San Luis has been meticulously translated into rigorously authentic reconstructions and exciting educational programs. At Mission San Luis, the entire site is a classroom. Living history programs, tours, special events, and camps are offered throughout the year. Thematic educational camps for students (ages 7-15 years) immerse children in archaeology, Spanish language instruction, and living history. Students learn basic principles of each discipline, and work side by side with professionals. For example, children in the archaeology camp apprentice with real archaeologists in the field and in the new 8,100 square-feet archaeology laboratory at Mission San Luis.

■ At Mission San Luis, the entire site is a classroom. Living history programs, tours, special events, and camps are offered throughout the year. Thematic educational camps for students immerse children in archaeology, Spanish language instruction, and living history.



SPECIAL SECTION SPONSORED BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE





## MISSION SAN LUIS

*Quae her - orbis - pars - geographic  
onibus uis - in anno 1797  
nisi perirent pro tempore*

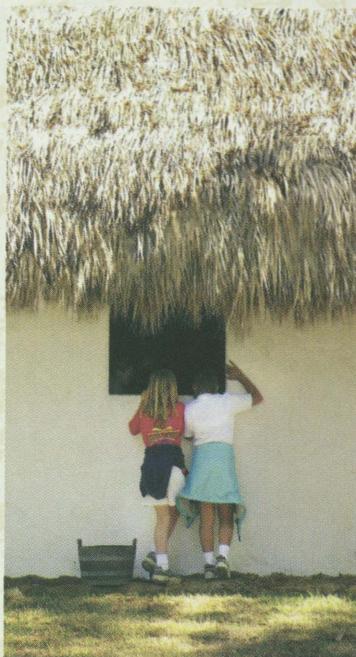
**R**ecently installed bilingual exhibits in the visitor center provide many opportunities for all visitors to "touch" history in recreated archaeological digs, hands-on drawers, and artifact puzzles. Children's eyes light up when they are able to feel pieces of the 300 years-old baptismal font, or discover the object gallery drawers full of Indian pottery, colorful beads, and even a tortoise shell.

The story of Mission San Luis is also being taken into classrooms throughout the state with the outreach program, *Extensión San Luis*. The program targets Florida fourth graders learning Florida history, but is also aimed at reaching underserved Hispanic students and their families. This bilingual outreach initiative places an emphasis on Hispanic and Native American heritage and history,

as well as Spanish language skills and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) advancement. In 2004, *Extensión San Luis* went into migrant student classrooms in north Florida, and brought migrant families to Mission San Luis. The program works to provide underserved residents with a new found sense of pride in their cultural heritage and an uplifting family experience. During the fall of 2004, *Extensión San Luis* targeted Miami Dade public schools and communities.

With the leadership and support of Florida's First Lady, Columba Bush, and a \$1 million Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, efforts are underway to secure long-term support for this nationally significant, publicly-owned site. The Mission was one of only six projects in the

**At Mission San Luis, the entire site is a classroom. Living history programs, tours, special events, and camps are offered throughout the year.**



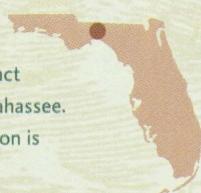
country to receive a grant under the Endowment's *We the People* initiative, which emphasizes "founding principles in the United States in their full historical and institutional contexts." As honorary chair of the Mission San Luis Endowment Campaign, First Lady Columba Bush, and the Friends of Mission San Luis are working to encourage friends, colleagues, foundations, corporations, and caring individuals to help raise \$3 million in matching funds. The success of their efforts will help ensure that the Mission is able to continue the important work of communicating its rich cultural heritage to visitors of all ages and from all walks of life for years to come. ■



■ Governor and Mrs. Bush attend a commemorative mass at Mission San Luis.

### To Learn More

For information on *Extensión San Luis*, or to request a visit from program educators to local school districts, contact Ana Cabezas at 850.487.3711 or [amcabezas@dos.state.fl.us](mailto:amcabezas@dos.state.fl.us). To find out more about the Mission San Luis Endowment, contact Diane Jefferson at [dyjefferson@dos.state.fl.us](mailto:dyjefferson@dos.state.fl.us) or call 850.487.1790. Mission San Luis is located at 2020 Mission Road in Tallahassee. The site is open Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed on Mondays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Admission is free. Call 850.487.3711 or visit [www.flheritage.com/archaeology/sanluis/](http://www.flheritage.com/archaeology/sanluis/)



The Patel Conservatory's Classical Ballet Training Program students rehearsed a flamenco dance piece on opening day.



*Patel Conservatory Opens To*



# Rave Reviews

— By Michael Kilgore —

“Great art doesn’t just happen. It has to be produced by people whose talent and skill are recognized early, nurtured, and given room to grow. Art needs, too, educated audiences to view it, listen to it and pay for it. But audiences are created only if we educate our children to understand, appreciate and make art themselves. And that means arts education.”

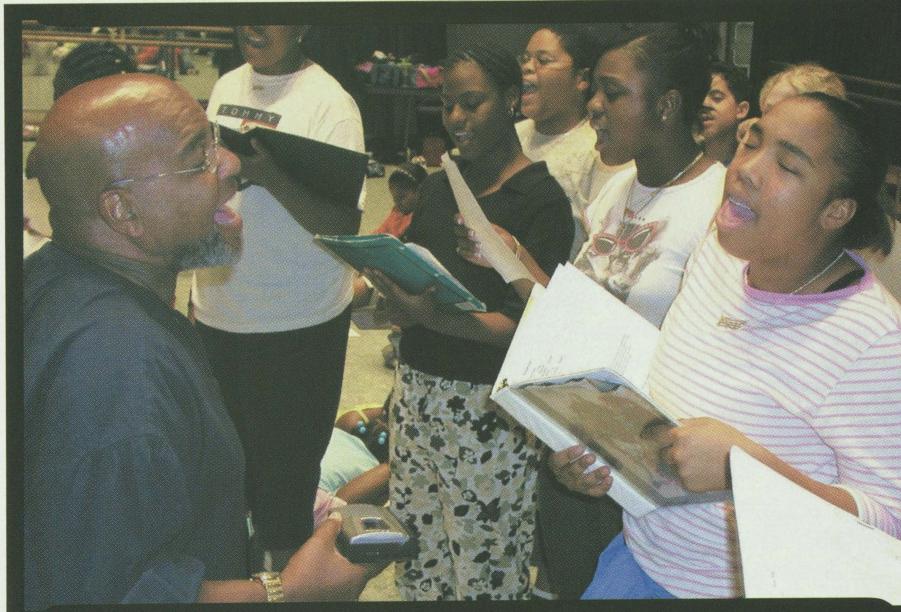
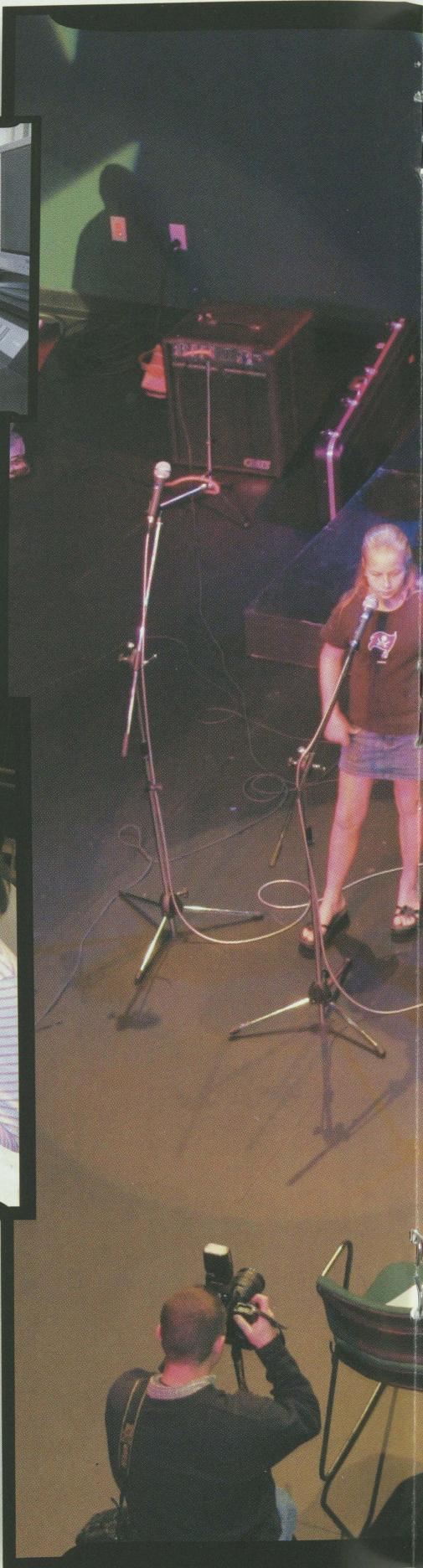
Carol Sterling, arts education consultant, in The Merrow Report produced by Learning Matters, Inc.

Young dancers giggle, pose and stretch outside the classical ballet training studio, waiting to be transformed into swans. In another classroom, adult writers collect words like gold, as a playwriting instructor urges them to use what they know as a starting point. “I think you’ll find it easier to work from your own truths,” he says.

After a few fits and starts by a youthful woodwinds, percussion and brass section, the conductor sings the instrumental passage as he wants it played. “Start from nothing,” he tells them in the rehearsal hall. “Make everything serve the rhythm.” On the third floor, adult students slouch in a circle of chairs, pondering the meaning of “living truthfully under imaginary circumstances,” a tenet of the Meisner acting technique.

**S**chool is in session at Tampa's new Patel Conservatory, a 45,000-square-foot facility and a new component of the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center in downtown Tampa. The four-story Patel building exterior mirrors the façade of the original, so that the first major addition since the arts center opened in 1987 doesn't stand out as new construction. But inside, there are new programs, new opportunities, new visions.

Class demonstrations, tours, speeches and even an original song, celebrated the official opening of the \$7.8 million Patel Conservatory late last year. "We are so thrilled to have this beautiful building up and running," said Judith Lisi, president of the Center, at the Conservatory's December 4 grand opening. "Education is a vital part of what we do here at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, and we have done a great job over the years to create a nationally recognized program. But we simply needed more room. Finally, now we have a space big enough to hold our dreams."



Fred Johnson, the Center's artist-in-residence, is one of the driving forces behind the Conservatory.  
Right: The Rock School bands perform in the new TECO Energy Foundation Theater.

In the short list of conservatories connected to major performing arts centers in the United States, the Patel Conservatory is second only to New York City's Juilliard and Lincoln Center. The Conservatory features 20 studios and performance spaces such as the TECO Energy Foundation Theater — a 250-seat venue.

The school includes classes for all ages and interests. Fall, winter and spring sessions, plus a shorter summer session, focus on the training and exploration of the performing arts for prospective arts professionals, as well as for community members seeking a better understanding and appreciation of the arts.



In the short list of conservatories connected to major performing arts centers in the United States, the Patel Conservatory is second only to New York City's Juilliard and Lincoln Center.

**N**ew classes now offered in theater, dance, music and media arts join existing programs such as the Center's Community Arts Ensemble, the Tampa Bay Youth Orchestra and the Classical Ballet Training Program. Already, more than 700 students are enrolled.

Lisi stresses the importance of having the Conservatory situated next door, or "classroom to backstage" with the arts center. "Students can take master classes in the afternoon, and then see their instructors on stage in a Broadway musical or major dance production that evening," Lisi says. "They will witness first-hand the theatrical life they may aspire to."

This creativity lab offers rooms and classes for all levels of students and abilities, including onstage and backstage, on-camera and off, youngsters and retirees. "We help our students discover their creative potential, whatever it is," Lisi says. "They will learn amazing life skills that will remain with them whether they choose a career in the arts or elsewhere. Imagination and discipline, collaboration and communication serve as life lessons for all students, regardless of level. In this way, we will grow the future performers, and future audiences, of tomorrow."

Conservatory Executive Director Wendy Leigh agrees, "The Conservatory will be life changing, not only for the Tampa Bay community, but will also lead the way nationally and set the standard for all similar institutions. To work on such an exciting and important project is the pinnacle of my career."

The Conservatory's connection to the Tampa Performing Arts Center, the largest in the southeast and one of the top 10 in the country, resonates with students' parents. "The credibility of the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center made a huge impression on us when we learned about the Patel Conservatory ..." one parent wrote. "You want the best for your children." "We have waited for a place like this," read another parent's note.

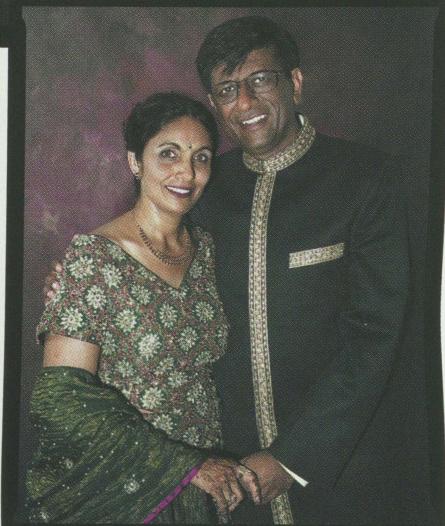
The Conservatory is named for Dr. Pallavi Patel, an Indian-born and now Tampa-based pediatrician. Her husband, Kiran, a cardiologist, made a \$5 million commitment to the Center's nearly \$32 million capital campaign to honor his wife and her love of the arts. The Center then named the Conservatory for her.

Both the Patels frequently speak of bringing communities and cultures together. "At times," Kiran Patel has said, "art can be the very thing that narrows the gap of differences between our societies and honors who we are as people. I am committed to narrowing that gap through education, through health care and, of course, through the arts. I believe that it is through these endeavors that we can make a difference in the world."

Dr. Pallavi Patel with her husband, Kiran

*"The Conservatory will lead the way nationally and set the standard for all similar institutions."*

**Wendy Leigh,**  
Conservatory Executive Director



The state-of-the-art Patel Conservatory stands proudly to the north of the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center.



Making a difference is something that's frequently on Fred Johnson's mind. An accomplished jazz musician, Johnson is the Center's artist-in-residence and one of the driving forces behind the Conservatory. "When I walk through the stage door here, it's a young boy's dream realized," he says. "I remember when I was growing up, there was a school that I would play across from. Every summer I would hear music coming out of it. But there was this huge shadow cast by this building and it was kind of ominous and it frightened me a little bit. And every day, I'd want to go across, but I wouldn't go. An old gentleman who worked at that school actually invited me to step through that shadow and come into the school, and it became one of the building blocks of what is now my career."

"My hope," says Johnson, "and I really feel this in my heart, is that this new conservatory can be that building without a shadow that's open to everybody and that can help people realize their dreams." ■

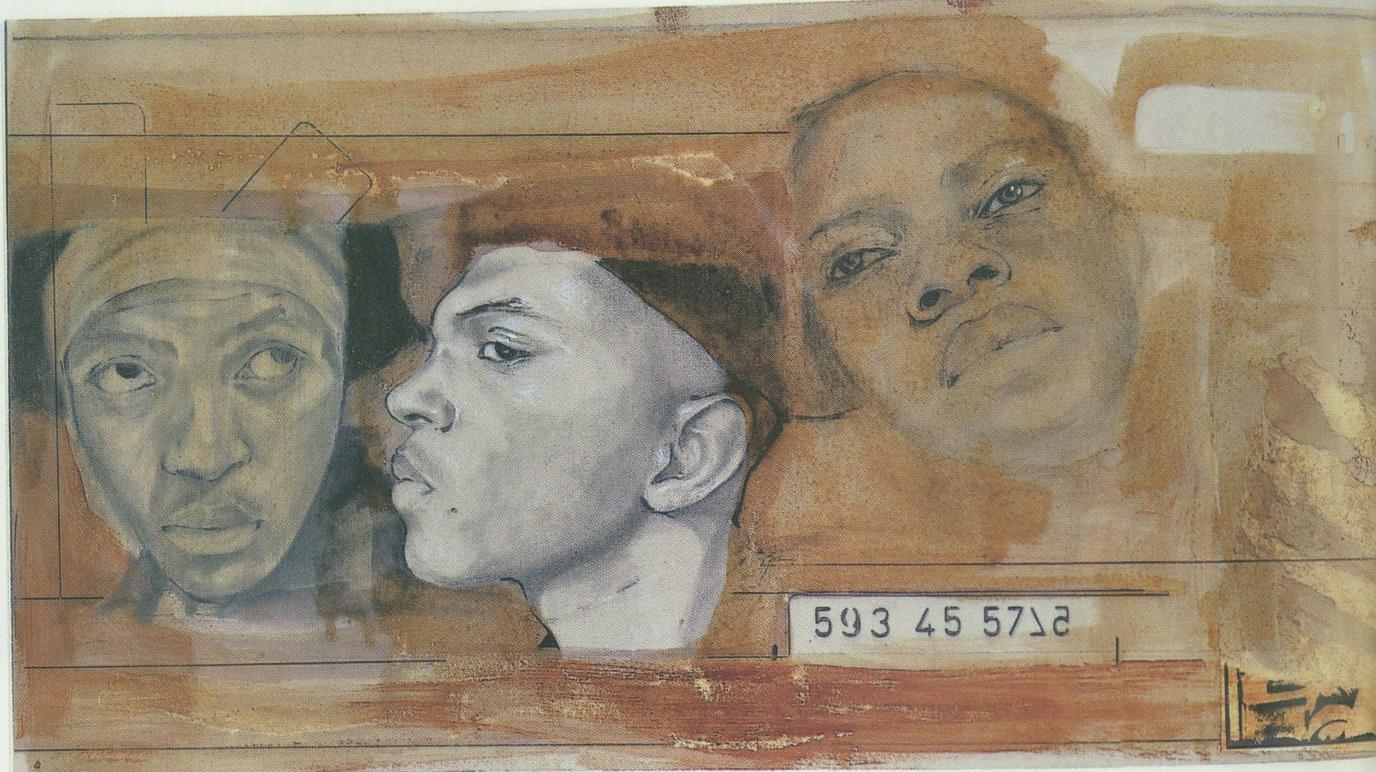
#### To Learn More

Visit the Patel Conservatory at 1010 N. MacInnis Place, Tampa, call 813.222.1002 or visit [www.patelconservatory.org](http://www.patelconservatory.org).



FLORIDA'S ARTS RECOGNITI

# creating their



Above: Artwork, Jeremy Baker, 2004, Design & Architecture Senior High School, Miami;  
Opposite page: Dance, Virginia Munday, 2002, Harrison Arts Center, Lakeland.

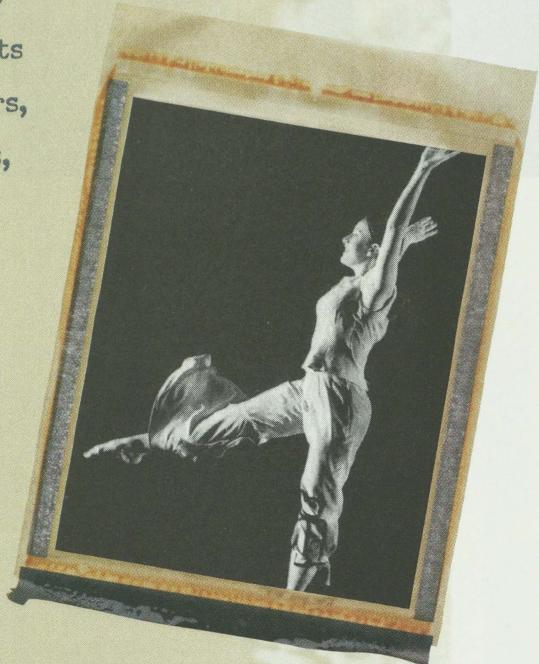
visual media art  
music

## ON SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## way to college

"The State of Florida has one of the most influential advocates for the arts in our First Lady, Columba Bush," says Bob Radock, president of Arts for a Complete Education / the Florida Alliance for Arts Education (ACE/FAAE). Since the early 1980s, the Florida Alliance for Arts Education has united educators, artists, community leaders, concerned citizens, arts and arts education organizations, and corporate partners to ensure Florida's students a complete education that includes the arts. Upon becoming Florida's First Lady, Mrs. Bush has dedicated her time and energy to promoting art appreciation and education among Florida's young people, traveling to schools across the state to draw attention to the variety of arts education programs Florida's public schools have to offer. "Through the arts, our young people learn basic values that will serve them well throughout their entire lives," Mrs. Bush says. "These values will keep them focused on discipline, creativity, and self-reliance and prevent them from falling into the temptations that face so many of our youth today."

BY GAIL CAMPBELL • IMAGES COURTESY COLLEGE BOARD AND ACE / FAAE



dance theatre

Left: Artwork, Abigail Nichols, 2003, South Fork High School, Stuart; Right: Artwork, Lauren Fattal, 2004, Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts, Lakeland.



**"I have seen first hand the incredible power and positive impact that participating**

In 1999, Mrs. Bush approached ACE/FAAE to establish a partnership to carry out her arts initiatives. Together they established the *Florida First Lady's Arts Initiative*, and through that, the *Arts Recognition Scholarship Program* to honor high school seniors who have demonstrated exemplary talents in music, media, dance, theatre, and visual arts. Each year, 24 Florida high school seniors are awarded \$1,000 scholarships on the basis of artistic merit and academic excellence. More than 300 outstanding high school seniors applied for the prestigious award in 2004. Following strict guidelines, students were required to submit a portfolio of their work and an essay on an established topic, "How the Arts Influenced My Life" or "The Role of the Arts in My Future." Independent judges, experts in their respective arts fields, reviewed each application to select the scholarship winners.

The scholarships are intended to assist students with pursuing further study in their chosen art form. Each spring, the Governor and Mrs. Bush host a reception at the Governor's Mansion to congratulate the young artists and meet their families and teachers.

After graduating from high school, the scholarship win-

ners continue to pursue their artistic talents in higher learning and the professional world. Past scholarship winners are currently attending colleges and universities throughout Florida, Alabama, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, and Washington, D.C. These students now create and perform all across the world, from Orlando to New York City, and in Europe and Jamaica.

Some of the accomplishments of recent scholarship winners include:

**Daniel Ruiz**, a 1999 – 2000 Arts Recognition Scholarship recipient in visual arts, graduated from the New World School of the Arts in Miami and attended the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) in Providence. Ruiz was one of two representatives from RISD to participate in the prestigious Yale University art competition before earning his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with honors. He now lives in New York City and works in the field of film animation through an internship with Stardust Television.

**Clinton Curtis**, a 2001 – 2002 Arts Recognition Scholar-

ship recipient in theatre, graduated from Key West High School and attends New York University, now a junior, majoring in musical theatre. He performs in clubs, sings with a professional choir, and has a recording contract pending. In Key West, he produced and performed in a benefit concert for his local arts center.

**Jennifer Sanon**, a 2003 – 2004 Arts Recognition Scholarship recipient in music, graduated from the New World School of the Arts in Miami and attends the New School in New York City, studying vocal jazz. Sanon has toured Europe, and in July 2004 performed at Lincoln Center with her mentor, Wynton Marsalis. She will enter the Juilliard School in the fall of 2005 as a student in their new Vocal Jazz program.

The success of the *Arts Recognition Scholarship Program* has reinforced Mrs. Bush's determination to help make the arts an important part of the education of Florida's students and to develop more programs to assist with such an effort. She says, "We owe a debt of gratitude for the immeasurable gifts of art to many—the artists themselves, collectors, advocates, and our young people with hopes and dreams for a bright future. Florida's artistic landscape, past and present, is vibrant and rich, and we have so much to learn and share."

The First Lady's commitment and support for arts education is welcomed, and shared by the leaders of Florida's arts education community. Dr. Mary Palmer, a founding member of ACE/FAAE, observes, "When experiences in the arts are enriched through educational opportunities, they become transformative in the lives of participants...Recent studies provide clear evidence of what supporters of the arts in education have known for some time: The arts help all students to succeed in school and in life; quality arts education programs have a greater likelihood of being a part of the school curriculum when school and community leaders have come together to make that goal a reality; and the arts can provide a way to engage youth who are not being reached through traditional schooling."

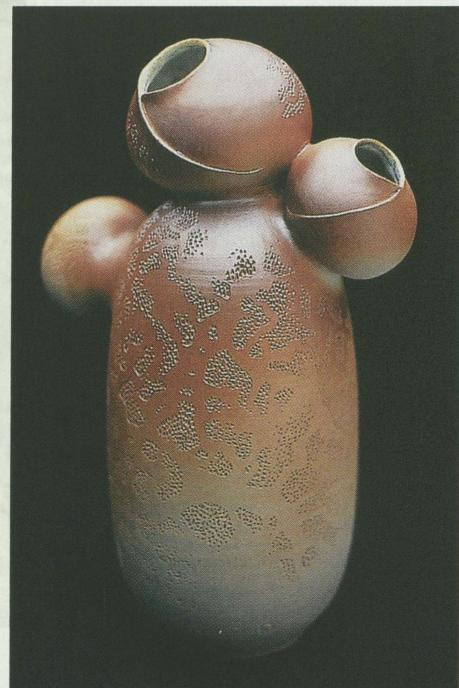
#### To Learn More

For more information about the First Lady's Arts Initiative Programs and to download application forms for the Arts Recognition Scholarship Program, visit the ACE/FAAE Web site at [www.faae.org](http://www.faae.org), or [www.myflorida.com/myflorida/governorsoffice/firstlady](http://www.myflorida.com/myflorida/governorsoffice/firstlady).

in the arts has on students' lives." **Florida's First Lady, Columba Bush**



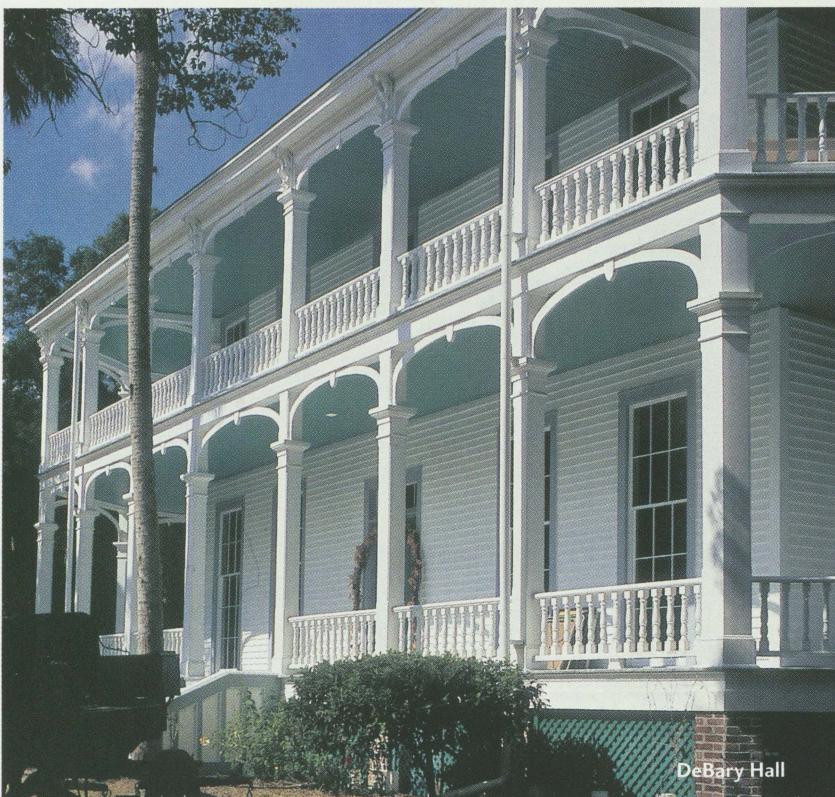
Florida's First Lady, Columba Bush with 2004 scholarship recipient Matthew Dobbins attending the exhibition at the Capitol Rotunda, Tallahassee. Dobbins attended the Booker High School/Visual and Performing Arts Center, Sarasota.





# SMALL TOWN TREASURE

BY SARA E. ROGERS



entral Florida is a popular vacation destination for millions of visitors each year. But less than one hour west of some of Florida's most famous Central Florida attractions, three special downtowns and small towns exemplify Florida's unique heritage, and offer a pleasant excursion for visitors. A visit to DeLand, Cassadaga and DeBary provides a glimpse into Florida's heritage through murals, mediums, mansions and much more.

### DELAND

Less than 25 miles west of Daytona Beach lies the town of DeLand, the administrative seat of Volusia county. DeLand is defined by stately homes nestled amongst an oak-tree canopy, a nationally recognized, award-winning Main Street, scenic roads, bubbling springs, Stetson University and Southern hospitality. Stetson University, established in 1876 is Florida's oldest private college. The Stetson University Campus Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1991, blends comfortably into downtown along Woodland Boulevard where visitors enjoy a fine selection of specialty and antique shops, outdoor cafes and bistros.

The Downtown DeLand Historic District, National Register listed in 1987, includes the DeLand Mural Walk illustrat-

Places in 1991. Today, the Southern Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp Meeting Association is the oldest active religious community in the southeast. The streets of the town are narrow, and the homes date back to the turn of the 20th century. Although residents own their homes on Camp grounds, the Camp retains ownership of the land.

Visitors come to Cassadaga seeking private readings, séances or simply to stroll the streets of this curious town. Certified mediums are listed in the directory available at the Cassadaga Welcome Center and Bookstore. Every certified medium has completed an intense study and training program, similar to a college curriculum, which can take up to nine years to complete. Visitors can schedule "The Encounter with the Spirits" walking tour, which take place every Saturday and Sunday afternoon, or browse the area's largest selection of books on traditional Spiritualism and metaphysics at the Cassadaga Welcome Center and Bookstore.



# S IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

ing local history with colorful portrayals of early settlers in horse-drawn carriages, steam locomotives and grand homes of yesteryear. DeLand museums include the African-American Museum, the DeLand Museum of Art, the DeLand Naval Air Station Museum, and the Henry A. DeLand House Museum. On the Stetson campus, the Gillespie Museum of Minerals boasts the largest private mineral and gem collection in the world.

Historically minded visitors may enjoy the pamperings of the DeLand Artisan Inn where each suite bears its own distinctive theme. Recently restored to its 1920s look, the bed & breakfast features an acclaimed restaurant.

### CASSADAGA

Bungalow houses, narrow streets and spirit encounters define the intriguing town of Cassadaga. The Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp was established in 1894 by George P. Colby. During a séance, Colby was told he would someday establish a Spiritualist camp in the South. In 1875, Colby's spirit guide "Seneca" led him to the Cassadaga site, a Seneca word meaning "rocks beneath water."

One of the few religious communities founded in Florida during the 1890s to remain in existence today, Cassadaga now encompasses 57 acres. More than half of its more than 80 residents are mediums and healers. The town was designated a Historic District in the National Register of Historic

### DEBARY

Beautifully restored DeBary Hall is the late 1870s winter hunting estate of famed New York wine importer and sportman, Frederick DeBary. The 8,000-square-foot, Italianate-style mansion was a popular destination for quail hunting, fishing and unforgettable parties, enjoyed exclusively by DeBary's guests, affluent northerners who traveled by steamboat up the St. Johns River. Today the mansion

and exhibits offer a glimpse of life during Florida's 19th century tourism boom, the local citrus industry, and steamboating up the St. Johns River. The property includes stables and farming artifacts. The DeBary Hall Historic Site, owned by the state of Florida and managed by Volusia County's Division of Leisure Services, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. ■

#### To Learn More

##### DELAND AND DEBARY

St. Johns River Country Visitors Bureau  
386.775.2006  
[www.stjohnsrivercountry.com](http://www.stjohnsrivercountry.com)

##### CHAMBER OF WEST VOLUSIA

386.775.2793  
[www.chamberofcommerceofwestvolusia.com](http://www.chamberofcommerceofwestvolusia.com)

##### DELAND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

386.734.4331  
[www.delandchamber.org](http://www.delandchamber.org)

##### CASSADAGA

Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp  
386.228.2880  
[www.visitcassadaga.com](http://www.visitcassadaga.com)

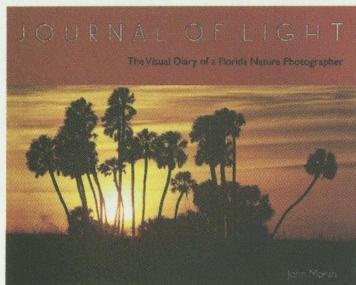
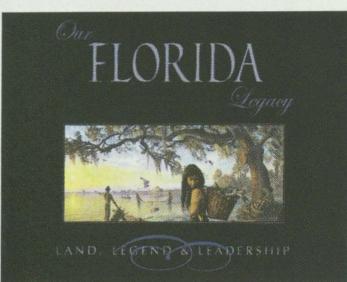


Visit [www.VISITFLORIDA.com](http://www.VISITFLORIDA.com) to plan your next Florida getaway. VISIT FLORIDA—The State's Official Source for Travel Planning.

# MIXED MEDIA

## IN PRINT

### A SAMPLING OF NEW FLORIDA TITLES

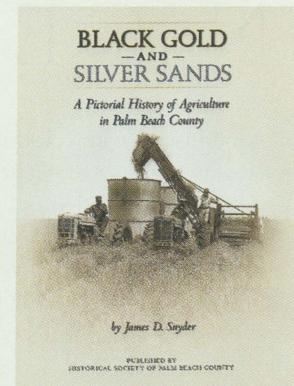
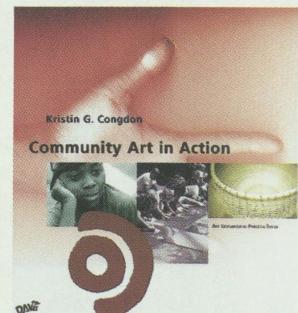
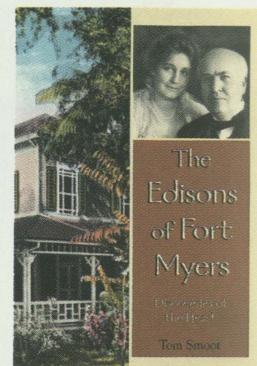


**OUR FLORIDA LEGACY: LAND, LEGEND & LEADERSHIP** by Margaret Barlow and editor-in-chief Anne Mackenzie (*Legislative Research Center & Museum*) tells the story of Florida's vivid history and its lawmaking body. The elegant, full color coffee table-style book features the richly evocative paintings created by Christopher Still for the Florida House of Representatives Chamber. • Inventor Thomas Edison and his winter estate, Seminole Lodge are the basis for **THE EDISONS OF FORT MYERS: DISCOVERIES OF THE HEART** by Tom Smoot (*Pineapple Press*). Smoot documents the history of the Edisons' "jungle" retreat, and the deep connection which existed between the family and the town of Fort Myers, Florida. • Part of the *Art Education in Practice* series, **COMMUNITY ART IN ACTION** by Kristin G. Congdon (*Davis Publications*) demonstrates how art education programs in schools and other sites can be expanded to address community-based and folklife traditions. Using several Florida folk artists as examples, the text explains how art and aesthetic choices are at the heart of communities, and discusses how folklife and community practices are associated with the natural and built environment, different occupations, recreational activities, and ethnic traditions. • Award-winning photographer John Moran presents Florida's

natural beauty through colorful photographs and personal essays in **JOURNAL OF LIGHT—THE VISUAL DIARY OF A FLORIDA NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER** (*University Press of Florida*).

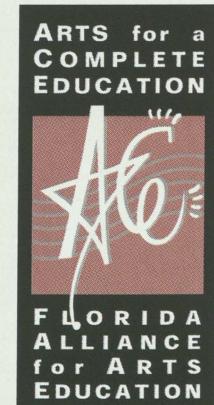
Often photographed within a few steps of modern impacts, the images communicate a sense of Florida's natural wealth as it must have appeared to those who first disturbed its shores. • **BLACK GOLD AND SILVER SANDS: A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF**

**AGRICULTURE IN PALM BEACH COUNTY** by James D. Snyder (*Historical Society of Palm Beach County*) recounts the beginnings of agriculture in the vast wetland between Lake Okeechobee and the Atlantic. From pineapple fever and truck farming to dairies and the soda apple, the progress of south Florida's farmers is recorded in historical photographs and the memories of the citizens of Palm Beach County.



## ONLINE: ON ART EDUCATION

[www.faae.org](http://www.faae.org) is the Web site of *Arts for a Complete Education/Florida Alliance for Arts Education* (ACE/FAAE). This statewide alliance of more than 20 state associations and 32 county coalitions works in partnership with local arts agencies and community representatives at local school and district levels to promote and improve education in and through the arts. The alliance serves arts educators, cultural agencies (including dance, theatre, visual arts, film, and music), school districts, and local schools throughout the state, directly impacting more than 125,000 students on an annual basis. ACE/FAAE 2004-2005 programs are centered on the theme: *Arts Education: Part of the Solution*, and grouped into three important areas of arts education: *Connecting Florida Arts, Schools, and Communities, Providing Models of Excellence and Promoting Awareness of the Benefits of Arts Education*. Sign up to receive online e-bulletins by contacting info@faae.org or call toll free: 866. 919.FAAE (3223).



## ART SCENE

**arteaméricas 2005:  
FOCUS ON LATIN AMERICAN ART**

In 2003, Merrill Lynch *arteaméricas* was the first art fair devoted exclusively to art from Latin America. In 2005, *arteaméricas* returns to Miami for its third year, and has grown to feature art from 51 of the best Latin American galleries. Now with 187 artists from 17 countries in the United States, Canada, Spain and Italy, *arteaméricas 2005* represents a cross section of contemporary and well-known artists. A wide range of sculpture, paintings, photographs, and drawings from masterworks to modern art as well as installations and videos will be exhibited. A panel of art experts ensures the high quality selection of the works exhibited.

The fair attracts an audience of seasoned collectors and young professionals to the Coconut Grove Convention Center in Miami, located at South Bayshore Drive and S.W. 27th Avenue. *arteamericas 2005* will take place Friday, April 8 through Monday, April 11. Doors are open to the public Friday and Saturday from noon to 9 p.m.; Sunday from noon to 8 p.m. and Monday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is \$12. Tickets will be on sale at the door. For more information, visit [www.arteamericasmiami.com](http://www.arteamericasmiami.com).



*Arriba un arbol abajo, arriba dos perros*, by Mateo Arguello Pitt, mixed media over wood, courtesy Galeia Via Margutta, Buenos Aires, Argentina

# ART IN UNFAMILIAR PLACES

Secretary of State Glenda E. Hood (left) and Jill Harper, FACE director (right) with FACE visual arts program students at the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee.

DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES



## ■ FLORIDA ARTS AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM ■

In the summer of 2004, FACE visual arts program students worked with local artists and art educators to create a mural depicting scenes of prehistoric Florida on the outdoor mezzanine of the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee. Now, FACE music education students have expanded their creative expression and interaction by participating in music clinics with prominent Florida jazz recording artists performing in the Department of State's *Jazz at the Gray* concert series.

"Making music with these people has been wonderful for all of us," says Jill Harper, founder and director of the Tallahassee not-for-profit organization, Florida Arts and Community Enrichment program (FACE). "We have been offered the opportunity to interact with world class jazz artists — something very few students receive even in the biggest schools. We are a very small inner-city program with students who are often excluded from this level of creative activity."

FACE students meet with visiting jazz artists to learn about their own artistic development. The artists, including Grammy ® award-winner, Miami jazz flautist Nestor Torres and Montreux Jazz Festival-winning vocalist, Inga Swearingen, encourage students to see the importance of art in their lives. Following the artist workshop sessions, FACE students sit in on the pre-show sound and light checks, observing technical and professional aspects of the concert production.

The mission of FACE is to foster interdisciplinary artistic expression, multicultural understanding, and community service in order to help youth reach their fullest potential as active, caring members of the community. FACE receives funding support from Leon County and the City of Tallahassee Cultural Resources Commission and works with the support of community partnerships with local police, sheriff, schools museums, libraries, physicians, and social service providers. For more information contact Jill Harper at [faceart@aol.com](mailto:faceart@aol.com), call 850.524.3223 or write P.O. Box 15134 Tallahassee, FL 32317.



# CALENDAR

SPRING  
2005

## Through April 10 **Orlando**

The Florida Swing: Golf in the Sunshine State. A history of golf and the PGA in Central Florida. Orange County Regional History Center. (407) 836-8500

## Through April 28 **Boca Raton**

Historical Trolley Tour of Boca Raton. (561) 395-6766

## Through May 1 **Naples**

Matisse, Picasso & Friends: Impressionism to Surrealism. Masterworks of French Painting and Sculpture from The Baltimore Museum of Art. 35 paintings and 14 sculptures. Naples Museum of Art. (239) 597-1111

## Through May 4 **St. Petersburg**

Deep Blue: Caribbean-American Statements. Twelve fine-craft, Caribbean-born artists tell their stories of politics, family and love. Florida Craftsmen. (727) 821-7391

## Through May 5 **Boca Raton**

The International Film Series. Boca Raton Museum of Art. (561) 392-2500

## Through May 8 **West Palm Beach**

In the American Grain: The Stieglitz Circle at the Phillips Collection. Photographs by Stieglitz and over 40 paintings by

Marsden Hartley, Georgia O'Keeffe and others. Norton Museum of Art. (561) 832-5196

## Through May 15 **Tallahassee**

Art and Ecology. Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science. (850) 513-0700

## Through May 15 **Miami Beach**

Shalom Y'all: Images of Jewish Life in the American South. 40 black and white photographs provide a look at the Southern Jewish experience. Jewish Museum of Florida. (305) 672-5044

## Through June 12 **Lakeland**

Archive of Ephemera: Photography by Frances Paley. Polk Museum of Art. (863) 688-7743

## Through June 18 **Pensacola**

Rodin: In His Own Words. Selections from the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Foundation. Over 30 original bronzes, works on paper, and original letters written by the artist. Pensacola Museum of Art. (850) 432-6247

## Through August 28 **Orlando**

Curious George and Friends. Original artwork and memorabilia celebrates the enduring popularity of the "Curious George" books created by H.A. and Margaret Rey. Orlando Museum of Art. (407) 896-4231

## The Florida Home: Modern Living 1945-1965. Museum of Florida History, Tallahassee

## Matisse, Picasso & Friends:

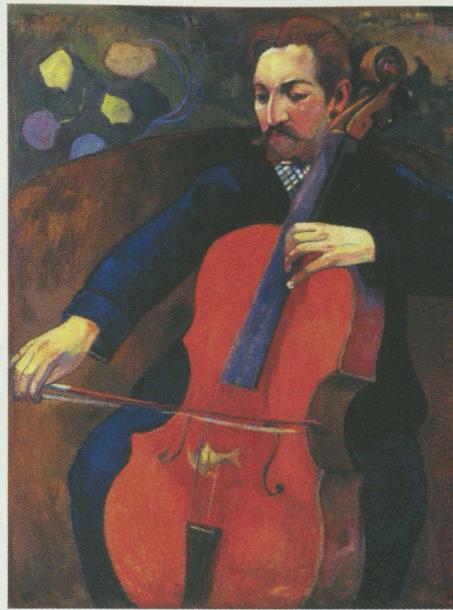
### Impressionism to

### Surrealism. Masterworks

### from The Baltimore

### Museum of Art. Naples

### Museum of Art, Naples



## Through October 31 **Fort Pierce**

Exhibit Without Walls. The work of David Hayes. St. Lucie County Department of Cultural Affairs. (772) 462-2548

## Through January 2, 2006 **Tallahassee**

The Florida Home: Modern Living 1945-1965. A full scale reconstruction of a 1947 house designed by architect Igor Polevitzky offers a glimpse into the lifestyle of South Florida residents following World War II. Museum of Florida History. (850) 245-6400

## Through January 12, 2007 **Winter Park**

Domestic Treasures: Tiffany Art Glass for the Public. The most comprehensive exhibition yet of the Museum's collection: almost 100 objects. Morse Museum. (407) 645-5311

## April 1-10 **St. Petersburg**

Festival of States 2005 Annual Springtime Celebration. (727) 898-3654

## April 1-3 **Delray Beach**

Delray Affair. Over 600 exhibiting artist/crafts persons. Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce. (800) 304-9702

## April 2 **Tallahassee**

Springtime Tallahassee. Parade and entertainment. (850) 224-5012

## April 2-3 **Gainesville**

36th Annual Spring Arts Festival. NE 1st Street and Thomas Center. (352) 395-5355

## April 7 **Ocala**

Appleton After Hours. Appleton Museum of Art. (352) 236-7100

## April 7-9 **Live Oak**

Lonesome River Band Music Fest. Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park. (386) 364-1683

## April 9-10 **Key Biscayne**

41st Annual Key Biscayne Art Festival. Howard Alan Events. (954) 472-3755

## April 9-10 **Tarpon Springs**

31st Annual Arts & Crafts Festival. Craig Park at Spring Bayou. (727) 937-6109

## April 13, May 11 **Palm Beach**

Historic Walking Tours of Wonderful Worth Avenue. (561) 659-6909



## CALENDAR



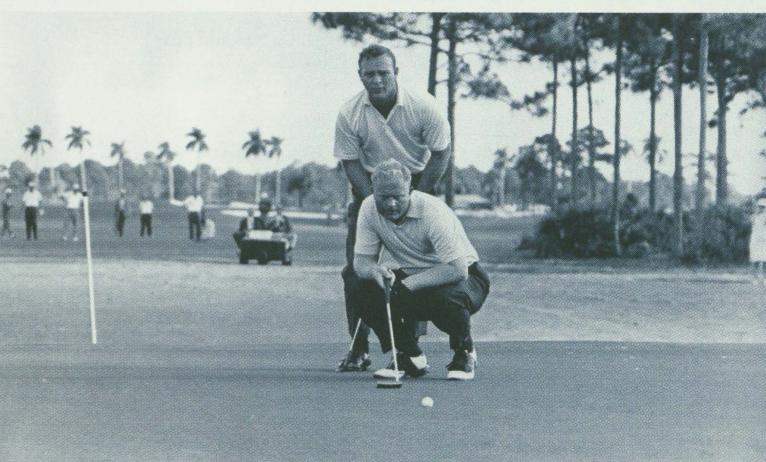
Margret & H.A. Rey's Curious George  
© and trademark Houghton Mifflin Co.

**Curious George and Friends.**  
**Orlando Museum of Art,**  
**Orlando**

**April 14-21**  
**Palm Beach**  
10th Annual Palm Beach International Film Festival. Independent films and seminars, and Florida film students showcase their work. (561) 362-0003

**April 15-17**  
**Key West**  
2005 Robert Frost Poetry Festival. Heritage House Museum. (305) 296-3573

**April 15-17**  
**Fort Lauderdale**  
Ocean Fest 2005. Over 200 diving exhibits, Bahamian and Caribbean food, music and seminars. (954) 839-8516



**April 16**  
**Hollywood**  
Kuumba on the Beach. African-Caribbean marketplace with ethnic cuisine, crafts and storytelling. Hollywood Beach Boardwalk. (954) 921-3404

**April 16-17**  
**St. Petersburg**  
30th Annual Mainsail Arts Festival. (727) 892-5885

**April 16-17**  
**Coral Gables**  
2005 Merrick Festival. Celebration of the city and its founder, George E. Merrick. (305) 491-4180

**April 18-July 18**  
**Naples**  
Clyde Butcher Exhibit, "Visions of Florida." Conservancy of Southwest Florida. (239) 403-4234

**April 19**  
**Gainesville**  
Gainesville Friends of Jazz and Blues. Savannah Grande Reception Hall. (352) 379-0300

**April 22-24**  
**Pompano Beach**  
21st Annual Pompano Beach Seafood Festival. On the boardwalk. (954) 570-7785

**April 23**  
**Apalachicola**  
Historic Apalachicola Classic & Antique Boat Show. (850) 653-9419

**April 23-24**  
**Starke**  
Strawberry Festival. (904) 964-5278

**The Florida Swing: Golf in the Sunshine State.**  
**Orange County Regional History Center,**  
**Orlando**

**April 27-May 1**  
**West Palm Beach**  
SunFest 2005. Art and waterfront festival. (561) 659-5980

**April 29, 30 and May 1**  
**Fernandina Beach**  
Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival. Parades, pirate invasion. (904) 261-3248

**April 30**  
**Clearwater Beach**  
Beach Fest. All day music festival. (727) 449-1036

**April 30**  
**Maitland**  
3rd Annual Children's Art Festival. Maitland Art Center. (407) 539-2181

**April 30-May 1**  
**Ormond Beach**  
Art in the Park. Rockefeller Gardens. (386) 676-3241

**May 5-7**  
**Tallahassee**  
Florida History Fair. Middle school and high school students compete from around the state. (850) 487-1902

**May 6-7**  
**Punta Gorda**  
Tri-annual Fisherman's Village Mothers Day Show. (508) 737-0998

**May 7**  
**Lake Wales**  
Bok Sanctuary Pops Concert Under the Stars. Historic Bok Sanctuary. (863) 676-1408

**May 7**  
**Delray Beach**  
Cinco de Mayo Festival. Old School Square. (561) 276-3396

**May 7**  
**Kissimmee**  
Symphony in the Park. (407) 93-EVENT

**May 7-8**  
**Ruskin**  
Ruskin Tomato Festival. E.D. Simmons Park. (813) 645-3808

**May 14-15**  
**Naples**  
Weekend Arts & Crafts Festival. Fifth Avenue South, downtown. (239) 435-3742

**May 14-July 31**  
**Denton Beach**  
Magnificent, Marvelous Martelé. American Art Nouveau Silver from the Robert and Jolie Shelton Collection from the New Orleans Museum of Art. Museum of Arts and Sciences. (386) 255-0285



**Exhibit Without Walls. The work of David Hayes. St. Lucie County Department of Cultural Affairs, Fort Pierce**

**May 15**  
**Palm Beach**  
Fiesta Latina. Palm Beach Zoo at Dreher Park. (561) 533-0887

**May 20**  
**Tallahassee**  
Emancipation Celebration. Annual noon event on the Knott House Museum steps. (850) 922-2549

**May 21**  
**Largo**  
Civil War Days. Living history reenactments of 1860's civilian and military life, and the Blue-Gray skirmish. Pinellas County Heritage Village. (727) 582-2123

**May 27-29**  
**White Springs**  
53rd Annual Florida Folk Festival. A three-day celebration of songs, music, dance and crafts. Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park. (877) 635-3655

**May 30-September 5**  
**St. Augustine**  
Concerts in the Plaza. (904) 825-1004

**June 23**  
**Delray Beach**  
Art & Jazz on the Avenue. Open house for Atlantic Avenue restaurants, art galleries, and shops and live music. (561) 279-1380

**June 29-August 28**  
**Boca Raton**  
Robert Doisneau's Paris. More than 100 gelatin silver prints from the mid-1930s through the 1970s. Boca Raton Museum of Art. (561) 392-2500

# ON A ROAD LESS TRAVELED



COURTESY HERMITAGE ARTISTS' RETREAT

## THE HERMITAGE ARTISTS' RETREAT

In 1999, the Sarasota County Arts Council joined together with other cultural organizations to preserve one of Southwest Florida's last undeveloped historic gulf front properties as an artists' retreat. Envisioned as an incubator for new artistic achievement, the Hermitage attracts regional and international visual artists, composers, writers and others selected by special nomination, who pursue their work in a tranquil, inspirational setting. Guest artists then share their talents with the students and adults in the surrounding community through workshops, seminars, lectures, demonstrations and performances. In 2004, six invited artists reached approximately 2,000 children and adults.

The Hermitage Artists' Retreat is located on eight acres of Sarasota County property on Manasota Key. The parcel of five historic buildings, some of which date back to the early 20th century, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in October 2002 as The Hermitage-Whitney Historic District.

Twice a year, the Hermitage opens its doors to the general public, once in January and again in June. The next open house will take place Sunday, June 5 from 1 - 4 p.m. All studios and living spaces will be open for viewing. Hermitage staff and Board members will be on hand to answer visitor questions.

*The Hermitage is located at 6650 Manasota Key Rd., Englewood, FL 34223. For information and directions call 941.475.2098.*

## IN UPCOMING ISSUES . . .

### ■ SOUTH FLORIDA'S MID-CENTURY MODERN ARCHITECTURE

Mid-Century modern architecture, familiarly known in South Florida as Miami Modern or MiMo, sprang from a post World War II building boom of exuberance that lasted nearly three decades from 1945-1972. Preoccupation with rhythm, speed and the space race combined with new construction technologies and innovative uses of decorative concrete, aluminum and glass to create a whimsical — at times playful — regional architecture.

South Florida, particularly Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties are rich in examples of this style. As these buildings age and Florida land values continue to rise, the pressure to make way for new construction threatens to destroy even the finest examples. Today, efforts are underway to identify, preserve and protect a signature South Florida architecture.



ROBIN HILL

Hyatt Regency Pier 66, 1967. Clarence F. Reinhardt, architect.  
2301 S.E. 17th St. Causeway, Fort Lauderdale

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